

The American Observer

A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends.—James Monroe

VOLUME XX, NUMBER 34

WASHINGTON, D. C.

MAY 21, 1951

Hard Reading

By Walter E. Myer

ARE you a "softie"? Do you shrink from pain and from difficulties of all kinds? Your answer to that question will, of course, be in the negative. No one likes to think that he is a coward, that he lacks courage, or that he is a tenderfoot. And few people are wholly lacking in courage or in toughness of fiber.

Many, however, are weak in certain aspects of their lives. One may be physically strong and courageous. He may be athletic and may boast a fine muscular development. He may not be afraid to face difficulty and even danger in sports, yet when it comes to mental exertion he may be the weakest kind of coward.

Many students are mentally soft. Their flabbiness of mind comes to light in their reading. They will read a book or a magazine if it is easy and entertaining. They like their reading especially well if it is dotted with pictures. They will read if they can do it in a hurry, but they will not settle down to serious and thought-provoking reading.

There are many papers and magazines and books which appeal to superficial readers. Such literature fairly screams out from the book shelves and the magazine stands and the paper racks. There are papers and magazines which are "snappy" and highly entertaining, with headlines or titles which catch the eye and capture the fancy.

Literature of this kind serves certain purposes. It may appeal to people who cannot read anything else. The trouble is that it discourages a kind of reading which the best qualified young people can do and which anyone must do if he is ever to develop power and leadership.

It is important that we find pleasure and entertainment in life. It is well to read stories or articles which are entertaining, but there are subjects which we need to understand if we are ever to get any place in life, and these cannot be read without effort. The tough-minded individual, the one who is strong and hardy and courageous, has sufficient will power and determination to tackle such reading and to go through with it. The flabby-minded "softie" shrinks from reading which does not promise him immediate entertainment. In which class do you honestly think you belong?

When you have learned to read, you have acquired a tool by the use of which you may unlock the wisdom of the ages. But you may also uncover trivialities through the use of this tool. How much reading is worth to you depends entirely upon the purposes to which the tool is put.

The next time you pick up a daily newspaper, do not confine your attention solely to the comics and the sports page. Read the editorial page, too. At first it may seem heavy going, but if you stick to it, you will find that your effort will pay big dividends in increased knowledge and understanding.



Walter E. Myer



VAST PRODUCTION is needed for defense and for combatting inflation

An All-out Effort?

Views Differ on Whether the United States Is Doing All It Should to Win the Fight Against Communism

"AMERICANS are not taking the world situation seriously enough. As a nation, we lack a sense of emergency."

The opinion was recently put forth by a civil engineer who travels widely about the country and who also spends considerable time in the nation's capital.

"When we suffer reverses in Korea, Americans show signs of buckling down and working together," he went on. "As soon as the military picture brightens, though, we lose interest, and cooperation ceases. We are just not making the long-range effort that is necessary if we are to meet the Communist threat throughout the world."

His companion was a salesman who also has occasion to travel frequently throughout the nation.

"That isn't my feeling at all," said the salesman. "On my recent trip I saw factories converting to defense work, and Army camps reopening. Most people with whom I talked agreed that we must build up our armed strength. They were not objecting to paying the taxes necessary to insure our safety."

"To be sure, Americans don't keep themselves at a high emotional pitch all the time. That is no indication, though, that we are not doing our level

best, as a nation, to meet the Communist threat."

Which view is most accurate? Are the American people doing everything they should to win the global struggle between democracy and communism? Or are we making only a half-hearted effort?

If we are to shed light on these vital questions, we must recognize that armed warfare is only one aspect of the current world conflict. In the struggle against communism there are several other areas that are equally important. That fact was brought out recently by Paul Hoffman, former Economic Cooperation Administrator and present head of the Ford Foundation.

Appearing on the radio program, Town Meeting of the Air, Mr. Hoffman said: "... the Kremlin is carrying on a completely new kind of war of conquest. To most of us, the very word war summons forth the images of armies clashing in the field. But while in the Kremlin's plan the role of the military is vital, it is now placing its major reliance upon activities along the economic, political, and psychological fronts."

"To meet the challenge of communism, and to hurl it back, we must wage the peace along these same four

(Concluded on page 6)

A Young Asiatic Island Republic

Indonesia, Now in Second Year of National Independence, Faces Many Problems

IN Indonesia, *Merdeka* is an important word. It has come to be used as a name for newspapers, streets, parks, and hotels. People employ it as a greeting. Sometimes it is shouted, like a college yell, by enthusiastic crowds at political gatherings.

Merdeka means "Freedom." It was a rallying-cry for Indonesians during the years when they were struggling to get rid of Dutch rule and secure an independent government. Now that freedom has been achieved, patriots utter the word as an expression of pride in their new nation.

Indonesia is one of several Oriental countries which have recently experienced a tremendous surge of nationalism. Like millions of other Asiatics, its people have rebelled against foreign domination and have demanded independence. They have insisted upon the right to handle their own problems, make their own decisions, enjoy their own achievements, and learn from their own mistakes.

India, Pakistan, Burma, and the Philippines all attained freedom—in one way or another—shortly after the close of World War II. Indonesia had to wait a little longer. Not until the end of 1949 was its full independence proclaimed.

Today, the young nation finds itself burdened with some extremely difficult political and economic problems, but it is tackling them bravely. Its leaders hope to build a strong, democratic, and reasonably prosperous country.

Indonesia occupies about 3,000 of the islands—large and small—that are scattered between Australia and the Asiatic mainland. Extending 3,000 miles along the equator, it covers about as much land area as do Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah combined.

(Concluded on page 2)



PRESIDENT Achmed Sukarno of the young Republic of Indonesia

Indonesia Needs Economic Help from Abroad

(Concluded from page 1)

Some 80 million people live in this new nation.

In addition to fertile farmlands, the islands have high volcanic peaks and dense forests. Among the contrasting sections of Indonesia are the wild southern portion of Borneo, the oddly shaped island of Celebes, crowded Java, small but colorful Bali, and big Sumatra—with its tiger-infested jungles. Down through the centuries, many cultures and languages have been brought to these and neighboring islands.

Formerly known as the Netherlands East Indies, Indonesia was under Dutch control for about 3½ centuries prior to World War II. There is a great difference of opinion as to how well it was governed.

The Dutch point out that they established plantations, mines, factories, railroads, and other enterprises. From these business ventures they obtained sizable profits. At the same time, they did a great deal to help the islands' inhabitants. "Before the war," says a Dutch writer, "Indonesia's credit was more sound, its administra-

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IN SCHOOL in Indonesia. An instructor looks on as the youth prepares his lessons.



IN INDONESIA, a farmer tending his rice field

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To statements like this, the Indonesians reply somewhat as follows:

"Living conditions among the natives were very poor during the period of Dutch rule, regardless of how they might have compared with conditions elsewhere in the Orient. The Dutch gave little in return for the riches they took from our islands. To guard against rebellion, they jailed young men who showed promise of becoming strong native leaders. Dutch officials made practically no effort to promote education among the islanders. They left about 90 per cent of our people unable to read or write."

Although dissatisfaction over foreign rule existed for a long time, the Dutch did not have much difficulty in governing Indonesia prior to the 1940's. Some of the islanders were rebellious in prewar years, but most of them meekly accepted outside control.

World War II, however, brought a great upheaval—after which the old patterns of life could never be restored. Japan seized the islands in 1942, and this event had a profound effect on the natives' thinking. It let the Indonesians see an Asiatic people defeating and humbling men of European

nesia's urgent problems are the following:

Unrest and violence. The islands have undergone a long period of turmoil. It began with World War II. Then came several years of warfare against the Dutch. Later, there were outbreaks of fighting while the separate states were being absorbed into the Republic of Indonesia. The people of the islands are restless, and many have come to regard warfare and skirmishing as the normal way of getting what they want.

Bandits are so numerous that they make travel dangerous in some regions. This spring, moreover, the Indonesian army has had to fight against armed bands of Communists, and against members of other small but fanatical political groups.

Communists are not making any large-scale revolt in Indonesia, but, as in other countries where most of the people are extremely poor, they are working hard to stir up dissatisfaction. The threat of communism hangs over Indonesia, as it does over most of southeastern Asia. The threat will grow rapidly unless the present Indonesian government can speedily improve living conditions.

Economic and social needs. Most of the Indonesian people are farmers. Their fertile tropical islands yield huge crops of rice and other products,

but the farming areas are extremely crowded. The beautiful terraced fields, tilled with ox-drawn, wooden implements, must support a vast rural population, so the average farm family earns very little. Very few can read or write.

The Indonesian government has already started a big drive to provide village schools, and it is planning other projects. On some problems it has called for outside help.

The United States is paying a team of American engineers to make a survey of Indonesia, and to report on how the Oriental country might be made more prosperous. These experts will examine the possibilities for raising better crops, for setting up new factories, for constructing roads and railroads, and for improving health.

There is a great deal that Indonesia can do to help itself. Rich in resources, it exports large quantities of petroleum and tin, as well as rubber, quinine, copra, tea, coffee, and spices. Many of the mines and plantations that produce these valuable items are owned by foreigners, but Indonesia's government collects heavy taxes on the profits.

Meanwhile, Indonesia has been receiving millions of dollars in grants and loans from the United States. The money has gone mainly for trucks, locomotives, airplanes, road-building machinery, telephone and radio equipment, motorized fishing vessels, and medical supplies.

How long the U. S. aid will continue is uncertain. Indonesia has said that she will trade with Communist China if such trade seems necessary for her own welfare, and U. S. congressmen are seeking to prevent our government from helping any nation that sells vital goods to pro-Soviet countries. (See "War Material Trade," page 5.)

One of Indonesia's greatest needs is for European and American technicians and experts who can teach her people how to use modern machinery, run factories, manage businesses, and carry on the work of government. Indonesians are a clever and intelligent people, rich in the artistic heritage of ancient Oriental civilizations. Island leaders hope that to this background can soon be added the technical skills necessary in the modern world.



INDONESIA, now a republic, formerly was a part of the Netherlands empire

Science News

The time is coming when you can call a friend in another city by dialing his number on your telephone. The call would go through in a minute's time, and would be as simple as dialing a neighbor.

The many telephone-users in Englewood, New Jersey, will try out the new system this year. They will be able to dial directly to San Francisco, Boston, Philadelphia, Providence, Pittsburgh, Detroit, Chicago, Oakland, and Sacramento. In addition to the usual telephone number, the person making a long-distance call will have to dial three extra numbers—the code signal for the city he wants to reach.

★ ★ ★

A motorist touring in foreign countries may soon have less difficulty than formerly in understanding road signs. The United Nations has worked out a set of international markers which have already been tried in several spots around the globe, including places in some of our own states. The signs have pictures rather than words to help the traveler. A cattle crossing is shown by the silhouette of a cow, a school playground by two children, road construction by the figure of a man shoveling sand, and a slippery surface by a car tilting dangerously on one side.

At present, printed directions are often an important part of road signs. If a motorist can't read the words, the sign is useless. Even if the language is familiar, the instructions are often so complicated that the driver must come to a full stop to read them. If the UN signs are widely adopted, markers indicating a steep hill, a dangerous curve, or a railway crossing will be the same everywhere.

★ ★ ★

Now that there is a new machine for handling ramie, the crop may be raised more widely in this country. Ramie is an ancient oriental plant which produces the strongest vegetable fibers known to man. It lives from year to year and yields three or four crops a season.

Up to now, the job of preparing the fiber for spinning has been both difficult and expensive because it had to be done by hand. The new machine strips ramie fibers at a rate of about 2,000 pounds per hour. Ramie can be woven, or spun, on ordinary textile machinery. A wide variety of fabrics can be made from it. Some of them look like silk, others like wool, linen, or fine cotton. It can be blended with synthetic fibers, too. The plant is now being raised in Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Texas, and Mississippi.

★ ★ ★

UNESCO reports that new fishing grounds are being found with the use of radioactive materials produced at Oak Ridge. Scientists on board the Danish ship *Galathea*—now making a world cruise—are using the materials to find out how much organic matter is produced by sea plants. They can then determine how much fish life can be maintained on that food supply.

The results of this investigation will have world-wide importance. The scientists say the fish population in many existing fishing grounds is diminishing and new grounds are badly needed.

—By HAZEL L. ELDRIDGE.



YOUNG PINEAPPLE PLANTS on a plantation in Hawaii are cared for carefully. Raising pineapples is a major occupation in Hawaii.

The Statehood Question

Alaska and Hawaii

SHOULD the territories of Hawaii and Alaska become the 49th and 50th states of the Union? Congress is again considering this question.

As American territories, Hawaii and Alaska are largely controlled by the federal government. The President of the United States appoints the governors of both. Most of the important laws affecting the territories are made by Congress rather than the local Hawaiian and Alaskan legislatures. The citizens of Alaska and Hawaii cannot vote in national elections for the U. S. President or for regular members of Congress. (The two territories do have representatives in the national legislature, but they are not allowed to vote.)

The people of these territories feel they are entitled to the same type of self-rule that the 48 states have. They resent the fact that they must pay federal taxes and abide by federal laws without helping make the laws under which they live. Most residents of Hawaii and Alaska desire statehood, which will bring them full equality with their fellow-Americans on the mainland.

Some people do not believe these territories should be made into new states at the present time, however. Here are a few of their arguments against admitting Hawaii and Alaska to statehood:

"Both territories are too far away from the United States mainland. In our country's history, we have never made states out of areas that are not joined, by land, with other states or territories.

"Even if we should make exceptions in this respect for Hawaii and Alaska,

we should at least wait until their populations are larger than at present. In the case of Alaska, the 130,000 people there might not even be able to afford the cost of operating a state government.

"Many citizens of Hawaii and Alaska are not yet ready for statehood. In Alaska, native Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts make up about one third of the population. Quite a few of these native peoples have had no education to prepare them for the responsibilities of self-government.

"Also, a large proportion of the half million residents of Hawaii have come to the islands from foreign countries only within the last 50 years. Some of them have not yet had time to become fully Americanized.

"Finally, it is reported that in Hawaii the Communists have a strong influence in the labor unions, and in politics as well."

Those who favor statehood for Hawaii and Alaska offer these arguments:

"It is true that the two territories are not joined to the U. S. mainland. Modern transportation, however, now makes it possible to travel from California to Alaska or Hawaii in less time than it took to go from New York to Washington in 1800. Furthermore, both territories are in immediate touch, by radio, with the mainland.

"So far as population is concerned, Hawaii has more inhabitants than four states do, and Alaska is not much smaller than several states. It is probable that the population and industry of these territories would grow rapidly if they became states.

"The people of Alaska and Hawaii have been waiting for statehood for many years. They have shown themselves to be fully prepared to take on the responsibilities that step would involve. They are loyal American citizens. Communism is no stronger in Hawaii than it is anywhere on the U. S. mainland.

"By granting statehood to Hawaii and Alaska, the United States can show the world that it really believes in the democratic principle of self-rule."

During its last session, Congress almost took the step of admitting Alaska and Hawaii to statehood. The lawmakers may vote on this question again in the near future.

Readers Say—

I think the college deferment law is completely contrary to our democratic principles. In our democracy, everyone is supposed to be equal. Under this law, the poor person who can't afford to go to college must fight, and the rich young men may avoid the draft by going to college. This is certainly not equality.

GLORIA SWARTS,
Newton, Kansas.

★ ★ ★

In regard to your recent article on the new draft deferment plan, I believe that qualified students should be deferred from service. In time of war as well as peace, it is essential that the country's citizens should be well educated for crises.

ANNE FREEMAN,
San Luis Rey, California.

★ ★ ★

In a recent issue of THE AMERICAN OBSERVER, a letter appeared in which the author said he saw no reason for limiting the number of terms a President serves. I thoroughly disagree with all he says.

I think that a President should be limited to two terms because if one man or one party remains in power too long, our government and its leadership will become corrupt. A good example of this is the corruption in parts of our government today.

JOE POOL,
Amarillo, Texas.



Concerning the latest amendment to the Constitution, it is easy to understand the view which a reader, Cecil Phillips, has expressed. (Mr. Phillips said he saw no reason for limiting the terms a President can serve, in the *Readers Say* column of THE AMERICAN OBSERVER, April 16.)

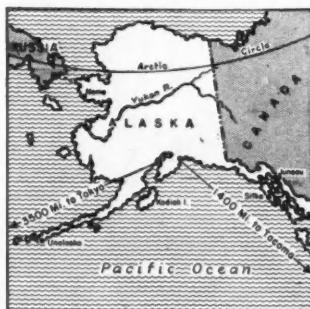
It is a fact, of course, that "We, the People" elect our Presidents, and if the qualified voters are well informed, a capable and popular President is elected. Yet, if by chance an undesirable President does attain that office this amendment will protect our people and our democracy.

PATRICIA MYERS,
Rochester, New York.

★ ★ ★

In a recent issue of THE AMERICAN OBSERVER, Cecil Phillips, of Birmingham, Alabama, commented on the twenty-second amendment. He said that no President should be restricted to two terms. I agree with him. If a President is popular enough to be elected to a third term, why shouldn't he be? Under this amendment a President might have to vacate the Presidency during a war.

EDWARD RYAN,
South Portland, Maine.



DRAWN FOR THE AMERICAN OBSERVER BY JOHNSON

The Story of the Week

Last School Issue

In accordance with our schedule, subscriptions for the school year expire with this issue of THE AMERICAN OBSERVER. The paper, however, is published during the summer months, and we invite our readers to subscribe to it.

The summer subscription price, in clubs of five or more, is three and one-half cents per copy a week, or 40 cents for the summer. For less than five copies, each subscription is 50 cents, payable in advance. The summer period includes the issues of June, July, and the first two weeks of August.

Meanwhile, teachers who have not already placed their tentative classroom orders for next fall may wish to do so. By ordering now, they will automatically receive their copies of THE AMERICAN OBSERVER at the beginning of the next school term, and they may then make any changes in their orders without cost.

We wish all our readers an enjoyable and constructive summer.

TV in Education

A plan to educate millions of New York State students with the aid of television has created widespread interest throughout the country. The plan calls for a network of video stations which would telecast special programs originating in colleges, schools, libraries, and art galleries. The proposal, the *New York Times* says, is "by far the most comprehensive yet suggested for educational use of television . . ."

The New York Board of Regents, which announced the plan, is asking the State Legislature for 3½ million dollars to erect 11 transmitters over the Empire State as follows: two in New York City, one each in Buffalo, Rochester, the Albany-Schenectady-Troy area, Binghamton, Ithaca, Syracuse, the Utica-Rome area, Poughkeepsie, and Malone.

Leaders both of the Board of Regents and the State Department of Education agree that the proposed network would provide "unlimited opportunities" to extend New York's Edu-

cational methods. "It is as important for the educational system to have television as school houses . . . the television channels are the most valuable natural resources the people possess today," said the chairman of a special Regents committee.

Far East Debate

Now that Americans have heard the views of the nation's highest military and civilian leaders on our Far Eastern policies, they are asking this question: What plans should we adopt to bring about peace in the Far East and to keep the conflict from spreading to other lands?

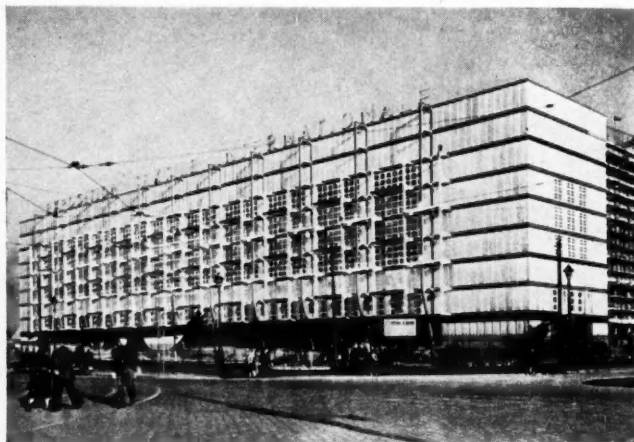
As matters now stand, most citizens are divided in their views. Those who support General Douglas MacArthur's beliefs say:

"The big struggle against communism is now taking place in Asia. If we act now, we can win a war on that continent with a relatively small force, and we need not assume that Russia will enter the conflict. But if we keep pulling our punches and fighting only a limited war, we may lose not only Asia, but the whole world to communism."

"To win the fight against communism, we must (1) bomb the bases in Manchuria which are used by Communists to supply their troops fighting us in Korea; (2) clamp down to keep important materials from going to Communist China; (3) help Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalist forces to invade Communist China; and (4) go ahead with our plans even though our allies do not agree with our proposals."

The supporters of President Truman and his top military and civilian officials, on the other hand, argue this way:

"We must continue to fight the Communists in Korea, but we cannot risk an all-out war in Asia now. General MacArthur was wrong before when he said China would not attack in Korea, so he may be wrong now in saying that Russia will probably not enter the conflict. His proposals might well provoke China and Russia into waging total war against us—a war for which we are sadly unpre-



AN ALUMINUM BUILDING in Lille, France. It was built to house exhibits of textiles from 14 nations at Lille's International Textile Fair.

pared. We suffered great losses because we were poorly prepared at the start of the past two world wars; in a third big conflict we may suffer complete destruction unless we are fully armed.

"Moreover, we must work with our allies and with the United Nations for world peace, not act against their wishes. By playing a lone hand we would wreck the United Nations and break up our alliance with other nations—just what the Soviet leaders want us to do. Too, if war comes now, Europe could be overrun by Russia, and we would have to fight the enemy alone."

Festival of Britain

The British people have suffered many hardships during and since the last war, and will endure more as Great Britain rearms. However, the austere mood of many Britons has been lightened by a great national festival, which is to continue for several months.

The Festival of 1951—which officially commemorates London's somewhat similar Great Exhibition of 1851—seems assured of success. Great crowds have attended exhibits representing the nation's art, culture, and

industry, being shown on the south bank of the River Thames at London. In hundreds of other cities and towns in the United Kingdom, smaller exhibitions are being held.

The nation-wide festival is expected to prove a great tourist attraction. The government anticipates that 800,000 foreign visitors will spend more than 280 million dollars at the exhibits in London and elsewhere. The government, which is hard-pressed financially, hopes to reap a substantial profit.

Tribute to Marine Corps

With a unanimous vote, the Senate has moved to enlarge the Marine Corps to more than twice its present size. It is highly unusual for the upper chamber to pass a measure without a single dissenting ballot. Because of this, the vote was a "tribute" to the corps, with its long record of outstanding service to the country, the *New York Times* points out.

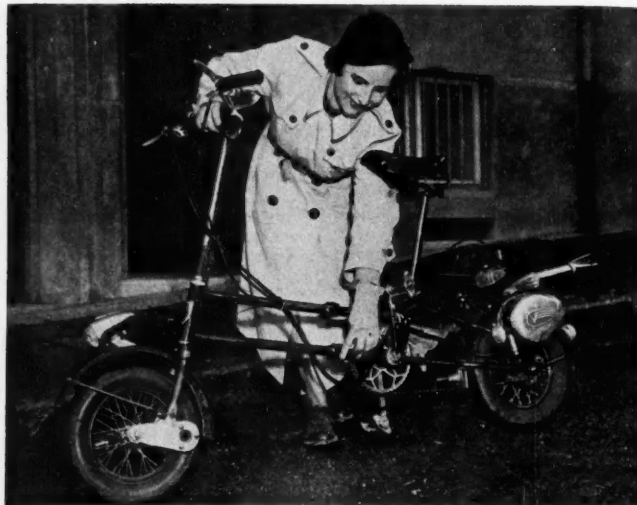
The last figures made public report the strength of the U.S.M.C. as 193,542. According to the measure passed by the Senate, the Corps could be increased up to 400,000. Even if it does reach that figure, the famous combat organization will still not equal its greatest strength during World War II. Then it numbered 485,000.

The Senate bill also gives the Marine Corps recognition in another way. The commandant—at present General Clifton Cates—would be made a consulting member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, whose membership at present includes only the top men in the Army, Air Force, and Navy.

As we go to press, the measure still must be acted on by the House of Representatives and by President Truman.

Shah of Iran

The United States and the other democracies hope that the 32-year-old Shah, or king, of Iran can use his influence to solve the troubled situation in his country. There is great public unrest in Iran now, and the Communists are trying to take advantage of it. However, the Shah is known to be democratically minded, and opposed to communism. He has left no doubt which side he favors in the world struggle.



FOLDING MOTOR SCOOTER. The Munich, Germany, woman carries a folding scooter out of the house (left) and then adjusts it (right) for a spin about the city. The machine is small enough to be kept in a handy corner. It weighs about 70 pounds. The manufacturer says it can run for about 60 miles on a little over a quart of gasoline.

The Iranian ruler's name is Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. A good-looking, friendly man, he made a fine impression on thousands of Americans during a tour here in 1949. At that time he asked newspaper reporters to refer to him as a "working king," and throughout his reign he has proved himself to be a progressive monarch, anxious to improve the lot of his people.

For example, soon after he became king in 1941, the young Shah gave most of his personal wealth to the nation. He hoped that other rich persons in Iran would follow suit, to the extent of sharing some of their wealth with the Iranian masses. (His hope was a vain one.) The ruler has worked hard to raise the living standards of his 17 million subjects, most of whom are illiterate and live in poverty.

It was he who called in a staff of U. S. experts to devise ways of developing the entire country. As a result, a plan was drawn up to improve the country industrially, and to raise its health, economic, and other standards, at a cost of 650 million dollars. Not enough of this program has been carried out, however, to make much improvement in the living conditions of the people.

Though the Shah lives in an atmosphere of regal luxury, those who know him describe him as a "regular fellow." He was educated in a school in Switzerland, and later in an officer training academy in Tehran, the capital of his country. He rose to officer's rank and served actively in the Iranian army, commanding his own regiment. Before becoming king, he participated in affairs of state to gain experience in government administration.



MOHAMMAD REZA PAHLAVI
The Shah of Iran

At the school in Switzerland, the king-to-be captained the football team, and today he still is a good sportsman. He is a skillful horseman, hunter, tennis player, skier, and boxer. He likes to drive automobiles and to fly his own airplane, a B-17. While in this country he made a point of studying American ways, and he wears clothes of occidental style.

Deadlock in Paris

What progress have the representatives of the "Big Four"—the United States, Britain, France and Russia—made in their Paris meetings to discuss a program for a later foreign minister's conference? "Very little," say officials of the democratic nations.

During the Paris discussions, which started last March, the Soviet dele-

gate followed what are now familiar tactics in meetings with Russia's officials. He agreed in part to some western proposals, then violently denounced the democratic nations as "warmongers" when they would not accept his government's one-sided program.

The chief reason for the present deadlock at the Paris meetings is that Russia and the western powers are opposed on one vital issue—the reduction of arms. Russia wants the Big Four nations' existing armaments cut by a certain amount, with no disarmament for her satellites. The three other nations at Paris want equal disarmament for all countries.

News in the weeks ahead will tell whether any agreement can be reached, and whether the Big Four foreign ministers will meet this year.

War Material Trade

In the months since the start of the Korean war, there have been many reports that our allies in Europe and elsewhere are selling valuable war goods to China and other Soviet lands. Britain, for example, was charged with sending thousands of tons of rubber to the Chinese Communists in the past. Western Germany, which is supervised by U.S., French and British officials, is still believed to be selling war materials to Iron Curtain countries.

A short time ago, this country took action to cut down on this trade with Communist nations. The Senate voted to stop sending our economic aid to any government which continues to sell important materials to Soviet-controlled lands. Too, the lawmakers are investigating the reasons why nothing was done to stop Germany's trade with Iron Curtain countries.

Meanwhile, England has already taken steps to end its trade with Communist China. Recently, British officials banned all exports of rubber and other valuable materials to the Far Eastern nation.

Korean Developments

Our military leaders declare that recent fighting in Korea definitely has proved one thing: In everything but



VOTING in college. Students at Fairleigh Dickinson College, Rutherford, New Jersey, get a taste of politics as they vote for Student Council members in regular voting booths which were borrowed from the local elections board.

numbers, the United Nations forces are superior to the Communist enemy.

General James Van Fleet, Korean field commander, hails what he calls "a great victory for the United Nations." The victory the general refers to is our halting of the massive spring offensive of the Communist Chinese. It is quite possible, of course, that the enemy may try again to launch a full-scale attack to drive UN troops out of Korea.

The fact remains, however, that soldiers of the United Nations, most of whom are Americans, have won the first phase of the spring fighting, and at great cost to the Communists. Severe damage has been dealt to the best-trained Chinese armies. Their casualties in battle have been exceedingly high.

Several factors enabled UN forces to repulse the enemy. Our firepower—supplied by more numerous and more modern artillery weapons—is partially responsible. Much credit, too, must go to the strategy of General Van Fleet and to the courage and sturdiness of our battle-hardened troops.

Turmoil in Panama

Panama's new president, Alcibiades Arosemana, is working hard to restore order to his country which has been the scene of turmoil and violence recently. Arosemana was vice president under former president Arnulfo Arias. Panama's citizens rose up against Arias when he tried to assume dictatorial powers. The former president claimed he wanted new powers so that he could put down any Communist uprisings. He attempted to reinstate an old Constitution that gave the president broad authority. After a short but violent revolution, Arias was overthrown and jailed.

Your Vocabulary

For each sentence below, tell which answer best explains the meaning of the italicized word. Correct answers are on page 7, column 4.

1. The government is *contemplating* (kōn'tēm-plāt-ing) a new project. (a) studiously considering (b) actively starting (c) not planning (d) postponing.
2. He was *lethargic* (lē-thar'jick). (a) wise (b) alert (c) confident (d) drowsy.
3. The treaty was *abrogated* (āb-rō-gāt-ed). (a) drawn up (b) canceled (c) criticized (d) obeyed.
4. When an effort or project ends in a *debacle* (dē-bah'kl), it (a) is highly successful (b) has uncertain results (c) brings agreement (d) suddenly collapses.
5. They *repudiate* (rē-pū'di-āt) the idea. (a) accept (b) consider (c) reject (d) do not understand.
6. If a job is *facilitated* (fah-sil'īt-āt-ed), it is (a) made difficult (b) made easy (c) left unfinished (d) done poorly.

Macadam. The type of highway surface known as *macadam* is named after John McAdam, a Scottish road engineer who lived about 150 years ago.

THE LIGHTER SIDE

She: "I've changed my mind."
He: "I hope it works better than the old one."

Said the sophomore: "When I first came here I was pretty conceited, but the other students knocked that out of me and now I'm one of the nicest fellows in the whole college."

When the white men came to this country, the Indians were running it. There were no taxes. There was no debt. The women did all the work. And just think—the white men thought they could improve on a system like that!

Once the late John Barrymore was cornered by an actor who launched into a long description of his troubles, winding up with a story about having accepted a small and unimportant role.

"The manager," he concluded, "told me he would pay me what I was worth and on Saturday night he handed me \$20." Barrymore eyed him coldly and asked: "What was the extra five for?"

The dollar does not go as far as it used to, but it goes much faster.

Foreman (finding employee dozing)—"I agree that a man should work eight hours and sleep eight hours, but not the same eight hours."



"Good news, dear. I found the lawn mower. It slipped behind several boxes in the back of the coal bin."



RUSSIA AND THE UNITED STATES are engaged in an armament race. Who is winning at the present time?

Defense Effort

(Concluded from page 1)

fronts—the military, in terms of building a strong defense, and the economic, political, and psychological.”

On the “four fronts” mentioned by Mr. Hoffman, what progress is being made? What stumbling blocks confront us? On which fronts—if any—is extra effort necessary? With the first anniversary of the Korean war only about a month away, it is appropriate that we see where we stand in the conflict of democracy vs. communism.

Military front. We have made substantial advances since the Korean war broke out in building up the strength of our armed forces. Army strength is now over the one-million mark and will probably be up to 1½ million by the end of next month.

By June 30 the Navy is scheduled to have 735,000 men in service, while the Marine Corps will total about 204,000. The strength of the Air Force will be approximately 850,000.

The total strength of the armed forces, then, will be about 3,300,000 in a few weeks. When the Korean conflict started, it was slightly less than 1½ million.

There is fairly general agreement that the armed forces have been built up at a fast pace in view of the fact that there have been shortages in equipment and experienced military instructors. There is considerable controversy, though, about other aspects of the military program.

Should we, for example, have universal military training? Those who think we are not taking the world situation seriously enough say that we should. Others, though, say that this is no time to begin such a program, and at present it seems doubtful that Congress will provide for such training in the immediate future.

Another military issue which has been the source of great controversy in recent weeks is the way in which the war in Korea is being conducted. Pros and cons have been put forth in the recent hearings at which General Douglas MacArthur and Secretary of Defense George Marshall and others testified. Whatever else the debate may show, it indicates that there are deep-set differences of opinion over the strategy we are following—differ-

ences which must be reconciled if there is to be wholehearted support of our military program by every citizen.

Economic front. We are stepping up the production of arms and equipment to meet the demands of our armed forces. At the same time we are trying to keep our economy on an even keel. The production of civilian goods will, of course, have to be curtailed to a certain extent. The swing from civilian to military production raises serious problems.

Speaking in New York recently, Charles Wilson, Defense Mobilization Director, was highly confident that defense factories will meet their production goals. Planes and tanks are already coming off the assembly lines in large quantities. Our production system, it is generally agreed, is one of the nation's strongest assets in the mobilization program.

What is worrying many people, though, is that inflation will upset our economy. Inflation takes place when there is plenty of money in circulation, but there is a scarcity of goods and services to be purchased. Since most people have more money than usual, there is competition for the limited supply of goods and services, and prices are pushed up.

The cost of living for most Americans has risen by about eight per cent since the Korean war started. Wholesale prices have gone up by 16 per cent. Many authorities believe that inflation is bound to grow more serious in the months ahead despite the government's efforts to control prices.

Why? Because as yet our economy has not felt the full effects of the defense program. As defense production increases during the next year or so, civilian goods will grow scarcer and there will be increased competition to secure those available.

The government has been trying to control prices and wages since last fall, but it has encountered serious opposition from large groups of the population. Business groups, for example, have been demanding that certain price regulations be abolished. Labor unions insist that wages be allowed to rise to a higher level before they are controlled. Farm organizations have united against attempts to hold prices of certain agricultural products at their present levels.

“The fact appears to be,” said the *Washington Star* recently, “that each group seems to be saying that stabili-

zation is fine—just so long as the other two are the ones stabilized.”

Each group feels it is justified in the point of view it is taking. Nonetheless, if these groups have their way, inflation—many economists believe—will be intensified. If price rises can't be effectively curbed, millions of American families will suffer increasing hardship.

All in all, the economic front appears to be a particularly critical one at this time. We must “hold the line” here as well as on the military front if the nation is to come through the present crisis.

Political front. We are continuing to work closely with the United Nations. At the same time we are making progress in building up an alliance of democratic powers in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Yet we face serious problems here, too.

One problem is that of holding the alliance together and strengthening it sufficiently to be able to stand up against Communist aggression. The matter came into the open recently in Britain where charges were made that the U. S. was calling for such speedy rearmament that it was threatening to tear down the British economy and lower the standard of living there.

This viewpoint, fortunately, is shared only by a minority in Britain. Nevertheless, there are some people in nearly all the lands with which we are cooperating that share the view of this British minority group. The existence of such a viewpoint indicates that we must proceed carefully if we are to build up a strong organization in the face of the Communist threat.

Many other political problems exist. We must soon make a peace treaty with Japan, and in other parts of Asia we must be constantly alert to the threat posed by communism. We cannot take for granted our peaceful relationship with Latin American lands, but must work steadily to strengthen democratic ties in this hemisphere. And, of course, there is always the all-important problem of trying to keep peace with Russia.

We must not let down our guard on the political front. As true as it ever was is the old axiom: “Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.”

Psychological front. We refer here to our attempts to persuade people of other lands that democracy is the best way of life and to influence them to support us and our allies.

One way of advancing our views abroad is by the broadcasts of the Voice of America, operated by the State Department. Programs are now broadcast in 29 languages. They are intended to let people of other lands know what life in America is like and what the United States is trying to do at home and abroad.

Other broadcasts are carried out under the Crusade for Freedom, a campaign sponsored not by the government but by freedom-loving individuals. Their aim is to spread the truth about democracy among the people in the Communist-controlled lands of eastern Europe.

We are also carrying out a fairly extensive student-exchange program under which students from other lands come to this country and U. S. students go abroad. Almost invariably young people from overseas who have gone to school here return home as unofficial “good-will ambassadors.”

Whether the story of America is being told in an effective way is the subject of a good deal of controversy. Critics of the Voice of America program claim that the broadcast has not always been bold and imaginative and has not helped our prestige abroad as much as it should. Defenders of the program say that it has done a good job in telling foreigners about us and in combatting Communist propaganda, and that it can do a still better job if Congress will provide more money for this enterprise.

On one point, though, there is general agreement among all well-informed Americans—that the most successful basis for psychological warfare is a record of good deeds in our dealings with other countries. If we do not back up our broadcasts with good deeds, no amount of propaganda—it is said—will convince people of other lands that the democratic way of life is necessarily the right one. In the long run, it is deeds, not words, that count.

The picture, then, as the Korean war approaches the end of its first year is neither entirely good nor entirely bad. Even the most bitter critics of our preparedness effort cannot deny that we have accomplished a great deal on all fronts in the past year. At the same time, the most ardent supporters of the program must admit that there still is much to be done. Both groups agree that this is no time for any American to lie down on the job.

Careers for Tomorrow -- Medical Doctor

YOU have two jobs to begin immediately if you are considering a career as a medical doctor. The first is to find out whether or not you are really qualified for the work. The second is to begin planning your education.

To be a doctor, you must have better-than-average intelligence. Some authorities say that prospective doctors should be in the upper third of their high school classes and in the upper half of their college classes. Otherwise, they will not be able to master difficult medical courses.

Prospective doctors should be interested in scientific subjects. If biology, chemistry, and physics have not been challenging to you in high school, you probably should not plan to go into medicine.

Prospective doctors should also have keen interest in helping people, for success and professional enjoyment in this field depend in large measure upon the ability to understand and work with people.

From the time that you decide to be a doctor until the day you enter medical school, you should plan your education carefully. Unless you do so, you may find that you have not taken the right courses and cannot gain admission to medical college. In rough outline, here are the steps you should follow:

Since you must have at least two years of pre-med work in a liberal arts college, or in a college of arts and sciences, you should take a college preparatory course in high school. Select a medical school now, if only tentatively, and choose the institution where you think you want to do your pre-med work. By doing this you

can check to see that you are taking the right courses in high school to assure your admission to the liberal arts college; and you can check with the medical college to see whether or not your credits from the liberal arts college will be acceptable to it.

The course of study a prospective doctor takes covers four years beyond



WE NEED more doctors for the home front and in the military services

the pre-med work and is entirely based on scientific subjects. To balance this, and to make the doctor a well-rounded individual, medical school authorities recommend that applicants have as broad a cultural background as possible. They like prospective students to take history, languages, economics, and other such subjects as part of their pre-med work, in addition to the advanced sciences that are required.

On going into medicine, you must be licensed to practice in your state after you have completed your education. The medical degree, a passing grade in

an examination given by the state, and an internship of a year or more in a hospital are the usual requirements for the license. Full details on your state can be obtained from the Board of Medical Examiners (as it is usually called), which has offices in the state capital.

There is little need to describe a doctor's duties in detail. Some physicians, as we know, are general practitioners and treat whatever illness their patients have. Others specialize in one branch of medicine or another. Still others go into public health work or hold administrative positions in hospitals. Any specialization usually requires additional study beyond the regular medical course.

A doctor's earnings are almost always good. They depend on the individual's ability to get and retain patients and on the size of the town in which he practices. A recent study showed that the average annual income for physicians, after they had met their office expenses, was about \$9,000. Many doctors earned a good deal less than this amount, and others earned more.

The cost of a medical education is high and so is the cost of setting up an office. If you have real ability in the field, though, don't let these facts discourage you. Scholarships are open to qualified students in most colleges and universities, and other financial aids are available.

Women, as well as men, are making outstanding careers in medicine.

Additional information on this field can be obtained from the American Medical Association, 535 North Dearborn Street, Chicago 10, Illinois.

—By CARRINGTON SHIELDS.

Study Guide

Defense Effort

1. About how many men are the U. S. armed forces expected to have by the end of next month? How many did they have when the Korean war began?
2. List some points of military policy on which there has been a great deal of controversy this spring.
3. Explain how the defense effort creates pressures that push prices upward.
4. What difficulties has the U. S. government encountered in its attempts to control prices and wages?
5. Tell of the accusation against the United States that is being made by some Britishers. What warning is to be taken from this charge?
6. What is meant when we speak of U. S. efforts on the "psychological front" in the present world struggle?

Discussion

1. Do you or do you not believe that the American people are taking the world situation seriously enough, and are doing their best to meet the Communist threat? Explain your position.
2. In your opinion, has the U. S. government been making strong enough efforts to control inflation? Give reasons for your answer.

Indonesia

1. About how long did the Dutch control Indonesia, prior to World War II?
2. Briefly present the two sides of the dispute as to whether Indonesia was well treated during the period of Dutch control.
3. How was the Indonesians' thinking on the subject of government influenced by Japan's seizure of the islands during World War II?
4. Describe the official relationship between Indonesia and the Netherlands, as established when the Oriental country was given freedom in 1949.
5. What change in the Indonesian governmental structure was made last year?
6. What piece of territory, still in Dutch hands, does the new nation want?
7. Describe some of the problems with which the new republic is grappling.

Discussion

Do you favor our government's policy of giving economic help to Indonesia? Explain your position.

Miscellaneous

1. Sum up the arguments on both sides of the "Far East Debate."
2. In what way will the Marine Corps be changed under a proposal now being considered by Congress?
3. Describe the way in which New York's Board of Regents proposes to use television in education.
4. Why is Mohammad Reza Pahlavi known as a progressive monarch?
5. What has recent fighting shown about the quality of our troops in Korea?
6. Discuss the pros and cons of giving statehood to Alaska and Hawaii.

References

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"Slowdown, then Boom," *U. S. News & World Report*, May 4, 1951. A brief business slowdown will be followed by boom as arms program hits full stride. Arms spending discussed.

"Republican Indonesia Tries Its Wings," *National Geographic*, January, 1951. Well-illustrated article about Indonesia's new freedom.

Answers to Your Vocabulary

1. (a) studiously considering; 2. (d) drowsy; 3. (b) canceled; 4. (d) suddenly collapses; 5. (c) reject; 6. (b) made easy.

Pronunciations

Achmed Sukarno—ahk-mēt' sōō-kahr-nō
 Bali—bah'le
 Celebes—sēl'uh-bēz
 Merdeka—mēr-dē'kah
 Mohammad Reza Pahlavi—mōō-hahm'-mud re'zuh pah-lah-ve'
 Sumatra—sōō-mah'truh

Historical Backgrounds -- Postwar Ethics

MOST Americans are startled and shocked today by the number of scandals in public life that have come to light in recent weeks.

Congressional investigators are turning up evidence that unethical favoritism has played a big part in the operations of government lending agencies. The investigators are finding, for example, that businessmen in some cases apparently obtained loans easily from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation when they knew the "right people" in political circles in Washington.

Another scandal concerns rich gamblers who are reported to have paid money to politicians in some states in return for being left alone to carry on money-making rackets. There are scandals even in certain colleges, where players have accepted bribes from gamblers to "throw" basketball games.

Hardly a day passes without some committee in Congress making new charges of irregular actions by people in government and business. Frequently, the actions charged are within the law and concern the use of influence in politics. In some cases, there have been indications that illegal acts were carried out. All in all, there is a great deal of evidence to indicate the existence of large-scale graft, corruption, and crime in the United States today.

A lowering of ethical and moral standards is not unusual after a war. When a conflict is going on, people are

obliged to give up many of their personal pleasures and to forget their private interests. National service is the accepted goal. After a war closes, people are weary. They want to relax. They are tired of public service, and the call to public duty is likely to be neglected. There is frequently a drop in personal and public standards of conduct.

This happened during the administration of President Ulysses S. Grant shortly after the Civil War. Grant was personally honest but he knew so little about politics that grafters were able to take advantage of him. Historians have referred to his adminis-



PRESIDENT GRANT'S administration was marked by much graft and corruption

tration as the "lowest point of national disgrace."

President Grant's private secretary was involved in a conspiracy with some whiskey distillers to cheat the government of taxes. Local governments were plagued with graft. William Tweed's gang, or "ring," stole millions of dollars from the public funds of New York City.

Another time of great demoralization came just after World War I, during the Presidency of Warren G. Harding. Albert Fall, Harding's Secretary of the Interior, was eventually sent to prison for his part in a dishonest deal involving the use of government oil lands.

Both major political parties have been involved in the corruption of national, state, or local governments at one time or another. One of the main reasons for dishonesty and carelessness in government is lack of public interest. If the people were really determined to have scrupulously honest administrations, and if they paid proper attention to the operation of government agencies, the chance for corruption would be greatly reduced.

The present investigations of government are intended to be a guide to both the people and their elected representatives in pushing for laws and a high standard of conduct in business and government—so that there will be less likelihood of new scandals in the future.

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